

Montana Board of Nursing

Volume 13 Number 2

October 2002

Board Members' Corner

Excellence in Practice

by Kim Powell APRN

I recently saw a bumper sticker that read, "Get involved. Decisions are made by the people who show up." Perhaps in no other process has this been more evident than the recent APRN rules revision process. Despite publicizing all 11 meetings, providing conference call access, updates in the BON newsletters, and inviting interested persons to participate, many licensees have been quick to be critical and negative about the process despite choosing to not participate. This process has not been easy. It has required a great deal of research, coordination and cooperation - so, why do it?

One of the many challenges facing nursing is the constant struggle to maintain nursing standards that promote quality care and provide safety for all patients. In my six years on the Montana BON, I have become acutely aware of the need for evidence-based standards of care that are both accepted by the profession and understood by those we serve.

The BON is charged with maintaining rules that provide for the safe practice of nursing in this state. On a routine basis, the rules are reviewed by Board members, staff and interested parties for accuracy, clarity and correlation to evidence-based Standards of Care. About 2 years ago, a decision was made to perform a review of the rules governing advanced practice. This decision was based first on the need to provide clarity to rules that had been piecemealed together over the past 20 years. There was confusion as to scope of practice, certifying bodies, prescriptive authority and definitions of practice. Typical questions received by the BON included such statements as: can a FNP sub-specialize (psych-mental health facilities, ob-gyn, oncology)? Can a PNP perform

firefighter physicals? Can a GNP prescribe birth control pills? Which licensees can call themselves nurse specialists? Secondly, if the BON is required to pass judgment on a licensee's practice, there needs to be clarity and uniformity of rules that govern the practice of nursing - to protect the public and support the licensee.

The State of Montana is not alone in this dilemma. Nationally, Advanced Practice Nursing is still coming of age. There are institutions of higher learning graduating APRNs in specialties that have no certifying examination. Certifying bodies grant "recognition" using titles that are confusing to both licensees and the public. In addition, certifying bodies are strangely silent in such issues as age definitions and education requirements as well as certification of scope of practice. The ability of the BON to receive guidance from these certifying agents and "experts" in APRN practice has been a lesson in frustration. In fact, it took ONE YEAR for the ANCC to clarify whether the FNP certification exam provided certification for post-partum care.

So, here I sit doing what I like least - whining. As professionals we need to understand that as APRN practice matures, it will require frequent updates, changes and additions/ deletions to the rules. APRN practice requires a high level of education, continued competency testing, and quality review of practice. We need to work together to ensure that the privileges granted by our legislature in 1981 and earned by attainment of advanced educational preparation are not threatened by abuse or neglect. Professionalism requires that each of us respectfully cooperate and collaborate on these issues that are vital to the success of advanced practice and fulfill the requirement of ensuring safe application to the public.

Get involved - we need your professional, informed, and respectful input.

Responding to a Complaint Filed with the Board

By Lori Ballinger, Department Counsel

For the conscientious nurse, proud of the profession and his or her part in it, receiving notification from the Board of Nursing that a complaint has been filed is upsetting. First and foremost, do not panic. The Screening Panel dismisses the majority of the complaints it receives, most often because the complaint does not address nursing issues. Keep these guidelines in mind when formulating your response to the Board.

DO:

- **Focus on the nursing issues.**
- **Provide your response in a prompt and thorough manner**
- **Type your response and ensure a professional 'presentation'**
- **Accept responsibility for your actions.**
- **Describe corrective actions, if applicable, that have been implemented to prevent reoccurrence**
- **Provide all relevant information.**

DO NOT:

- **Offer to send additional information at a later date.**
- **Respond to information not related to the incident(s) contained in the complaint – it is irrelevant to the Panel and should not be included.**
- **Send letters of recommendation from former patients, coworkers or employers.**
- **Let another submit a response on your behalf.**

The Panel often makes the decision to close a complaint, to investigate or to discipline an individual's license based solely on the information provided in the complaint and response.

The Board does not deal with employment or personnel issues. You may refer to the statutes and rules that govern nursing practice as well as typical practice statements issued by the Board. Statutes, rules, and practice statements are on the Board's website or available by request from the board office.

If you believe you may have violated a nursing standard, accept responsibility for your mistake. In your response, let the Panel know what you have done to correct your error, if there was one, and to ensure that it will be highly unlikely to occur again.

Remember that the Panel is comprised of real people with real experience, three of whom are practicing nurses. They understand that mistakes happen. Their goal and legislative mandate is to assure the citizens of Montana that nurses are safe practitioners.

Take the complaint seriously but do not assume that this is the end of your nursing career! Very rare circumstances require that an individual's nursing license be suspended or revoked. While it may be difficult to do, please put the complaint into perspective and realize that you have 'due process' rights under the laws and rules of Montana.

Nurses in Action

The Board website has a new section titled Nurses in Action. The section has links to newspaper articles featuring Montana nurses. If your local newspaper prints an article about a Montana nurse, mail, fax or email the article to the Board office. The office staff will obtain permission to place it on our website, and everyone accessing the Board website will be able to read the news.



Message from the Executive Director

Renewals 2002

Our next renewal season is coming up and we have good news for you – your new license will have an **expiration date of December 31, 2004!** Each licensee will renew on even years from this point forward. We would encourage all of you to renew on line, since it is easy for you and allows our staff to shift that time to other important board functions. However, if you have a probationary license or if you try to renew after midnight on December 31st you will not be able to renew on line. E-check and credit cards are accepted for payment of the appropriate fee.

Please check our website:

www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/nur for updated information available on the web. Nursing education program information, nurses in the news, and on line license look-up are all available on the site along with a number of other board topics and downloadable forms.

Temporary Permits

Since Montana nursing license applicants may be issued temporary permits, both for endorsement from another state or by examination, I wanted to highlight some of the key issues related to practicing on a temporary permit and the supervising nurse's responsibilities. The Board has evidenced a considerable amount of trust in the employing organizations and education programs that candidates for licensure are adequately prepared and/or supervised to serve in the capacity of providing patient care in a reasonably safe manner prior to obtaining a permanent license.

In order to serve that trust, all permit holders must be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse who is physically present and immediately available to the permittee. If the position held by the permittee is not in an environment where an RN is directly available, a temporary permit is inappropriate and would be in violation of the Montana Laws and Rules governing nursing. The advantage to the employer and the permittee is the ability to utilize the individual in an RN or PN capacity and provide necessary orientation and training while waiting for the finalization of the licensing process. We have had many positive comments about the turnaround time for temporary permit processing and I have our terrific licensing staff to thank – so, hats off to Sarah Olsen and Jean Purus for their efficiency, effectiveness, and commitment to quality licensing processes.



New Newsletter Sections

You may note that we have added new sections to the newsletter. The first is a means to share feedback from our customers with the readers – this section is called the “Staff Corner”. The other new components of the newsletter are designed to highlight advanced practice, education, and compliance issues. If you have ideas for information you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact me anytime.

Advanced Practice

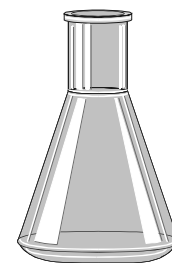
During the past few years, board members on the Prescriptive Authority and Practice and Credentials Committees have met with APRNs and the Montana Nurses' Association (MNA) to revise rules relating to APRN practice. Such revisions are a necessary, ongoing process to ensure that rules are reasonably consistent with current standards of practice and a rapidly changing health care environment.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our Rules Subcommittee members: Kim Powell (board member), Rita Harding (board member), Vickie Badgley (board member) Sami Butler (Executive Director, MNA), Carla Gibson (APRN) and Jill Caldwell, board staff (Nursing Practice Manager). Their time, expertise, and commitment to this large body of work are greatly appreciated.

I truly believe that the new rules serve to further define scopes of practice and licensure requirements. They are also consistent with general requirements of APRN

Update on Clinical Laboratory inspections

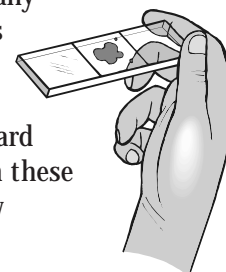
The Board of Clinical Laboratory Scientists has signed a contract with Dan Owens, clinical laboratory inspector. Mr. Owens will be visiting Montana laboratories and requesting information about employees who are performing clinical laboratory tests. Because many nurses perform this testing, the Board of Nursing is working with the Board of Clinical Laboratory Scientists to make these inspections efficient.



Mr. Owens will be completing an Inspection Report that documents the following information:

- Names of all employees performing clinical laboratory testing;
- Clinical Laboratory license number, type of license and date of expiration of employees' licenses;
- If not licensed by the Clinical Laboratory Board, whether employee is licensed by the Board of Nursing;
- Whether testing performed by individual employees is waived, moderately complex or highly complex by HCFA standards;
- If the laboratory work is being performed by a licensed R.N., proof of initial training, initial competency and ongoing competency.

Both nursing statute and rule require that a nurse attain and maintain competence in the nurse's respective area of practice. Mr. Owens will report any nurse found to be performing tests beyond his/her training and documented competency. The Board of Nursing supports the Board of Clinical Laboratory Scientists in these inspections and welcomes this new collaborative effort.



National Council of State Boards of Nursing Chooses Five More Montana Nurses to Serve on NCLEX Review Committees

The Montana Board of Nursing and the National Council thank the following volunteers for their time and commitment to the NCLEX development 'process. The volunteers' time and energy is a valuable contribution to the future of nursing across the United States.

Charlotte Brorud, served as a panel member on the February 2002 PN Examination Item Review session. Ms. Brorud is from Belt.

Wayne McKay, LPN, served as an alternate panel member for the February 2002 PN Item Development Session. Mr. McKay, who is from the Great Falls area, has served on NCLEX review panels in the past.

Ruby Riesland, served as an alternate panel member for the April, 2002 PN Examination Item Review Session. Ms. Reisand is from Fort Harrison in Helena.

Joan Lanfear, RN, served as a panel member for the RN Examination Item Review Session in May 2002. Ms. Lanfear is from Kalispell.

Danette Melvin, RN, served as a panel member to the PN Examination Writers Session in May 2002. Ms. Melvin is from Butte.

The NCLEX® examinations (NCLEX-RN® examination and NCLEX-PN® examination) are developed by hundreds of nursing professionals and testing specialists. There are three different panels:

- Item Writers - nurses that write the test questions with the assistance of the test service
- Item Reviewers - nurses that review the test questions and answers submitted by the item writers
- Panel of Judges - nurses that recommend the passing standard to the Board of Directors



By participating as an NCLEX® examination item writer, item reviewer, or panel judge, you will:

- Receive over 30 contact hours
- Have all of your expenses paid (airfare, airport transportation, hotel, and meals)
- Have an excellent addition to your resume/ curriculum vitae
- Have an opportunity to network with other nurses from across the country
- Promote excellence in nursing
- Learn how the nurse licensure examinations are developed and have input in the process

The sessions are ongoing year round and last an average of three to five days. The item development panels are assembled one to two months before the session is to take place. National Council will keep your application active for two years from the date of approval.

The qualifications for each panel are listed at the end of the application on the National Council web site. Basically, in order to qualify, you must either work in a clinical setting with newly licensed nurses or you must be a faculty member. For more information, log on to www.ncsbn.org.



Department of Labor & Industry - Business Standards Division & the Board of Nursing Offer On-line Query Capability for Business & Occupational & Health Care Licensing

Verifying a licensee's status and credentials is available on-line. While you may still obtain this information by calling the Board office, the on-line function may be quicker in some cases. The on-line search is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The nursing profession has more active licensees than any other board in Montana, and the Board of Nursing was anxious to be a trendsetter in this new electronic advantage. For more information, visit our web site at:

<http://www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/nur>

You asked for it – You got it! Two-Year Licenses Coming in November

The Board has received many requests for two-year licenses and successfully instituted a legislative change to allow two year renewal cycles. Your renewal form will arrive early in November. The form will look similar to past forms, but since this is a two-year license, the fee will cover both years. That means the fee to renew an active license is \$100. If you place your license on inactive status, the fee will be \$40. The Board office will offer on-line renewal again this year for those who have active clear licenses with no new convictions to report. Your renewal form will contain complete directions as well as your Personal Identification Number (PIN) to access the system. You may renew on line from any computer if you have a credit card or electronic checking account.

When you sign this year's renewal form, you will also be signing a statement validating that you have "read the statutes and rules relating to nursing and agree to follow them." The current statutes, rules and declaratory rulings are available on the Board web site at www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/nur.

Please remember, notifying the Board office of an address change is your professional responsibility. If you do not receive your renewal notice by November 15th, call the Board office. If you need to notify the Board office of an address change, you may do so by mail, fax or email.

Study Abroad in Swaziland Africa for Montana Nurses

Montana nurses are invited to study abroad in a program hosted by the Department of Nursing at Carroll College in Helena. This 2-week study program offers three credits in nursing coursework to travel to the country of Swaziland, Africa. The purpose of this program is to learn from nurses who are making a difference in the lives of their people in the face of the HIV/AIDS epidemic hitting southern African nations.

Cynthia Gustafson, Chair of the Department of Nursing and Director of the Parish Nurse Center at Carroll College will lead the trip. This will be Cynthia's third trip to Swaziland to help with the establishment of the African parish nurse program.

This trip is an opportunity for Montana nurses to work directly with African parish nurses and to learn about the care they are providing. In addition to the overwhelming task of providing hospice and home care to the dying, these parish nurses work with children and young families to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS through health promotion and counseling programs. They also work with extended families to address the orphan crisis.

These parish nurses take a holistic approach to their work, and they are an inspiration to the power of nursing care.



The trip leaves from Helena on December 27, arriving in Johannesburg, South Africa, where the group will then depart on a short flight to Swaziland. For more information, contact Cynthia Gustafson at Carroll College, 447-5494 or by e-mail cgustafs@carroll.edu.

Spotlight on Staff

The Board office staff works hard to assure that licenses are issued in a timely manner. The Montana Board issues licenses daily as well as fielding telephones calls on a myriad of different topics. The staff is committed to customer service, and we realize that your time is valuable.

Recently, the office received the following kudos from our licensees. Thanks for noticing!

"I work as a travel nurse ... have so many licenses. Your board has by far been the most gracious, considerate, helpful, kind...the greatest."

"It's been nice working with your board. Everyone has been helpful and pleasant."

"Thank you for your extraordinary efforts..."

"Thank you so much. You have been so helpful. I don't know what I would have done without you."

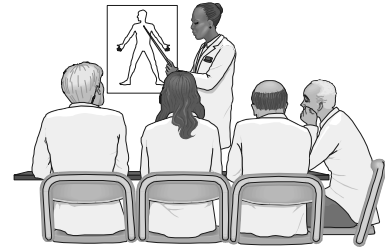
"Thank you so much for your cooperation and assistance, service. It has been wonderful, and compared to some places, unusual. It bodes well as I am moving to Montana, leaving me confident that my choice to do this at this juncture of my life is SURELY a right and good one for me."

"I was just amazed at the speed in which our nursing graduates received their temporary permits."

Recent Board Meeting Actions

April

- ✓ Determined that it is within the scope of LPN under direct, on-site supervision to perform microdermabrasion with appropriate training and continued competency.
- ✓ Proposed rule change language that addresses APRN, Prescriptive Authority, and LPN IV rules.
- ✓ Reaffirmed that the current rules of delegation do not allow for the administration of inhalation and breathing treatments with medications.
- ✓ Voted to notice rules to change the license renewal period to every other year beginning November 1st, 2002
- ✓ Voted to notice rules to broaden the LPN IV rules to include some additives in standard solutions. Potassium will not be an allowed additive.
- ✓ Accepted Missoula College of Technology letter of intent regarding proposed program changes from AAS degree to LPN certificate.
- ✓ Accepted the letter of intent of University of Montana College of Technology Missoula for the LPN to Associate of Science RN degree program. This would be a new RN program in Montana.
- ✓ Accepted and noticed draft rules to form an advanced practice committee which will incorporate the prescriptive authority committee.
- ✓ Reaffirmed its position to support the Governor's Opt-out provision for CRNAs .
- ✓ Discussed proposed legislation regarding increasing the number of RN board members by 2, bringing the total to 11, removing "for compensation" from the definitions of the practice of nursing, and clarifying the definition of unlicensed practice. The Board will also support legislation to allow unlicensed individuals to be trained and licensed as medication assistants under the jurisdiction of the Board of Nursing.
- ✓ Determined that a nurse may not use the title Clinical Specialist unless that nurse meets the qualifications and has the appropriate licensure as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, APRN.



July 2002

- ✓ Adopted rules regarding CRNA and CNS practice.
- ✓ Adopted rules changing renewal period to every two years.
- ✓ Determined it is within the scope of the RN, with proper training and competency to use paralytic agents in the intubated and ventilated patient with a physician's order.
- ✓ Determined that with the proper training and competency, it is within the scope of a nurse insert a dual port feeding tube with a stylet.
- ✓ Approved a joint position paper with Board of Pharmacy and Board of Medical Examiners regarding treating chronic pain.
- ✓ Reaffirmed the intent to support medication assistant legislation in the 2003 session.
- ✓ Voted to notice rules changes in the nursing school approval process and the LPN IV Section.

For specific information about any of the Board actions or for a copy of the meeting minutes, please contact the Board office or refer to the Board web site.

BOARD MEMBERS

Sharon Dschaak, LPN, Secretary, Wolf Point
Vickie Badgely, LPN, Stevensville
Lorena Erickson, Public Member, Corvallis
Gretchen McNeely, RN DNSc, Bozeman
Karen Pollington, RN, BSN, Havre
Kim Powell, RN, MSN, Missoula
Steven Rice, Public Member, Miles City
Jeanine Thomas, LPN, Ronan



BOARD STAFF

Barbara Swehla, RN MN, Executive Director
Jill Caldwell, RN MSN, Nursing Practice Manager
Joan Bowers, Compliance Specialist
Jean Purus, Licensing Technician
Sarah Olsen, Licensing Technician
Lori Ballinger, Department Counsel
Darcee Moe, Board Counsel
Ron Burns, Investigator

Stipulations and Final Orders

Randall Kinsey	RN 22476	Billings MT	Reinstate - Complete Probation
Carole Busby	LPN 8221	East Helena, MT	Probation 3 yrs with CE
Connie Seymour	RN 19924	Anaconda, MT	Suspended
Karin Klepzig	RN 19857	Big Sandy, MT	Revoked - 5 yrs
Sandy Ilie	LPN 7748	Billings, MT	Suspended
Grady Kendall	LPN 7724	Shelby, MT	Suspended
Jason Severeide	RN 26816	Billings, MT	Suspended
Sharon Scranton	RN 26979	Porthill, ID	Fine \$400.00
Russell Biddle	RN 26861	Great Falls, MT	Fine \$100.00
Doris Jess	LPN 730	Havre, MT	Fine \$100.00
Patricia Durden	RN 3855	Billings, MT	Probation 3 yrs with CE
Mark Roberson	RN 19167	Great Falls, MT	Suspended
Christina Trotter	RN 20687	Missoula, MT	Voluntary Surrender
Lee Buddie	RN 22264	San Diego, CA	Voluntary Surrender
Fern Dedrickson	LPN 3138	Butte, MT	Probation 3 yrs with CE
Tobin Ray Bachmann	RN 25890	Billings, MT	Probation 3 yrs
Kathryn Backus Edwards	RN 16561	Kalispell, MT	Voluntary Surrender
Ronald Glueckert	RN 28601	Helena, MT	Probation 1 yr
Cheri Asay	RN 19257	Billings, MT	Reinstated - Probation 3 yrs
William Stewart	RN 23013	Lewistown, MT	Reinstated - Probation - NAP 3 yrs
Lynaya Green	RN 8923	Great Falls, MT	Reinstated - Probation - NAP 3 yrs
Geri Dess	LPN 6948	Missoula, MT	Reinstate Probation NAP 2 yrs with CE
Kathleen Madden	LPN 7907	Billings, MT	Probation - 30 months with CE

**Names and license numbers are published as a means of protecting the public safety, health and welfare. Only Final Orders, which are public information, are published in this newsletter. Pending action against any licensee is not published. Please advise the Board office if any of the above nurses is working outside his/her licensure capacity.*

***Those licensees with Nurses Assistance Program (NAP) listed have been placed on NAP through the formal Board process. Licensee names and information on the Voluntary Track of NAP are confidential, and this information is not available to the public.*

Frequently Asked Questions

The following are a few of the typical practice statements that the Board office has made. The statements come from Nursing Practice and Credentials meetings. All of the statements are in the rules section of the Board web site under the rules section. If you have a question that is not addressed in laws and rules, call the Board office. The Nursing Practice and Credentials Committee meets four times a year, and they research and answer all questions that they receive.

❖ *Question: Does a nurse need a Montana license to give telephone advice to a Montana resident?*

37-8-401 It is unlawful to indicate licensure without a valid license.

37-8-443 (1) It is a misdemeanor for a person (including a corporation, association, or individual) to: (c) practice professional nursing unless duly licensed to do so; (d) practice practical nursing unless duly licensed to do so.

If a nurse is giving advice, the nurse is using the nursing process and therefore practicing nursing. If the patient is in Montana, the nurse is practicing in Montana.

Adopted October 2001

❖ *Question: Is the performance of blood sugar accuchecks a task that can be taught and assigned to an Unlicensed Assistive Person?*

An Unlicensed Assistive Person may be taught and assigned the task of fingerstick testing for blood glucose monitoring.

Adopted October 2001

❖ *Question: Is laser therapy within the scope of a nurse?*

It is within the scope of practice of a nurse to perform non-ablative laser and intense pulsed light source procedures with a physician order.

Adopted October 2001

❖ *Question: May a nurse give a medication that another nurse has poured or prepared in some other way?*

8.32.1404 (b) accept responsibility for individual nursing actions and competence and base practice on validated data, and 8.32.1407 (2) accept responsibility for nursing actions and competence.

Each nurse is responsible for the care s/he provides to a patient. If a nurse allows another person to pour the medication, that nurse is accepting responsibility for someone else's actions.

Adopted October 2001

BOARD MEETING DATES

- ◆ **October 8-10, 2002**
- ◆ **January 21-23, 2003**
- ◆ **April 22-24, 2003**
- ◆ **July 22-24, 2003**
- ◆ **October 21-23, 2003**

Board of Nursing meetings are held in the fourth floor conference room of the Federal Building, 301 South Park Avenue in Helena. Most of the Board and Committee meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted on the Board web site,

<http://www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/nur>

You may also obtain an agenda from the Board office. The Board encourages you to attend meetings and observe the process of nursing regulation in Montana.

The Board will also have telephone conference calls throughout the legislative session. These meetings are noticed, and you may attend at the Board office. Conference calls are scheduled for:

December 17, 2002
February 11, 2003
February 25, 2003
March 4, 2003
March 11, 2003
March 18, 2003
April 8, 2003

The calls will begin at noon and run no later than 2 P.M. The dates are subject to change. Consult the Board website or call the office if you plan to attend.



National Council for State Boards of Nursing Video Resources

Breaking the Habit: When Your Colleague is Chemically Dependent (2001)

- Video presentation on the serious problem facing the nursing profession
- Focuses on actual experience of dependent nurse and coworkers
- Scenarios presented with different outcomes – illustrates dilemmas experienced by colleagues
- Captivating and empathetic presentation
- Comprehensive intervention strategies provided

Crossing the Line: When Professional Boundaries Are Violated (1998)

- Video promotes nurses' awareness of challenges relating to professional boundaries
- Actual stories of nurses' experiences, failure to recognize the warning signs of over-involvement
- Potential risks of not identifying warning signs
- Positive approach to prevention, intervention, and response variations
- Addresses under-involvement, resulting unmet patient needs, lack of professional fulfillment

Delegating Effectively: Working Through and With Assistive Personnel (2002)

- Video provides the foundation for developing solid delegation skills
- Outlines step-by-step approach
- Developing effective work relationships, particularly with assistive personnel

Each complete package is priced separately at \$279. Purchase through Niche Communications, nichecom@comcast.net or 410-335-2618. Sample clips can be found online at National Council's Learning Extension: www.nclex.com

RN BOARD POSITION OPEN

Due to the resignation of Jack Burke, RN, Board President, one RN position on the Board is open. The position expires in July of 2003. The governor's office will accept applications for this position until it is filled. Interested RNs should contact Susan Ames (406-444-3111) at the Governor's office.

Board Bids Farewell to Rita Harding, RN, CNS

The Board of Nursing said goodbye to Rita Harding at their April 2002 meeting. Ms. Harding who is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Community Health Nursing, served on the Board for eight years and saw many changes as the Board evolved. During her tenure she served as Board President for two years, as well as Chairperson of the Nursing Practice and Credentials and Prescriptive Authority Committees; she also chaired the Adjudication Panel and served on various special task forces and subcommittees. She was also a frequent visitor to the Education Committee. Ms. Harding summarized her years on the Board with the following:

"My time on the board has been super challenging and super rewarding. I would encourage all nurses with issues, questions, concerns, or ideas to dialogue with the board. We are all accountable to the patient, and we all want to do the right thing. Through communication, even when it is contentious, we can all gain new perspectives and new understandings for the greater good."

Ms. Harding brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Board. The Board members and staff wish Rita the very best in "life after the Board of Nursing," and we look forward to having her visit and provide her valuable input in the future.

Governor Reappoints Three & Names One New Member to Board

Governor Judy Martz reappointed Jeanine Thomas, LPN from Ronan to a second term on the Board of Nursing. Ms. Thomas was first appointed in 1998, and she serves on the Board's Screening Panel. Governor Martz also reappointed the Board's two public members. Lorena Erickson from Corvallis serves on the Education Committee and Nursing Practice and Credentials Committee, and Adjudication Panel. Pastor Steven Rice from Miles City serves on the Board's Screening Panel and Prescriptive Authority Committee. Pastor Rice also served as Board Secretary in 2000-2001.

Newly appointed to the Board is Karen Pollington RN, BSN from Havre. Ms. Pollington works at Northern Montana Medical Center as a nursing administrator.

Congratulations to Ms. Pollington and the returning Board members.

Your Opinion Please

The Board office issues this newsletter twice a year to keep you apprised of information necessary to your nursing license. Since the costs of paper, printing and postage continue to rise, we face the challenge of keeping you informed in a cost-effective manner. The Board is considering ways in which they can keep you informed without raising licensure fees. One idea under consideration is an on-line only newsletter. As you know, the newsletter has been available on-line for two years. Because computers are available in all public libraries, and most facilities, the Board feels this may not be a hardship. Additionally, the Board office would continue to maintain an interested parties list which would receive all Board mailings, including the newsletter as well as notices of proposed rules changes and Board meetings.

The Board would like your opinion on this idea. Do you support an on-line newsletter? Do you check the Board of Nursing web site on a regular basis? Do you believe the Board newsletter is an appropriate use of part of your licensure dollar? Let us know what you think with a telephone call (406-841-2341 or 2342), E-mail (bswehla@state.mt.us), a fax (406-841-2343) or a letter (P.O. Box 200513, Helena MT 59620-0513). We want to hear from you!

NURSE IMPOSTER ALERT!

The following individuals are using altered documents that indicate licensure by the Montana Board of Nursing or other Boards of Nursing:

Leslie Jean Campbell-Ball; last known address, Alder, Montana; representing herself as a registered nurse

Sandra Campbell; last known address, Twin Bridges, Montana; representing herself as a practical nurse

In each of these cases, the individuals were able to perpetrate a fraud upon their employers by presenting photocopies of their forged licenses, some of them over a period of several years. The Board urges all employers of nurses to insist on seeing the original license and to further verify the license by using the on-line license look-up provided by the Board (www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/lnur) or by calling the Board office at (406) 841-2340.

14,500 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of 21¢ per copy, for a total cost of \$3,045.00, which includes \$3,045.00 for printing and \$.00 for distribution.

PERMIT NO. 89
HELENA, MT
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PRESORT

MONTANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
FEDERAL BUILDING, 301 SOUTH PARK AVENUE
PO BOX 200513
HELENA, MT 59620-0513

ADDRESS CHANGE? EMPLOYER CHANGE?

Please be sure your address and employer(s) are current with the Montana Board of Nursing.

The board depends on accurate and timely information from licensees to ensure that important communications, including your license renewal forms, reach you!

Address Change

Full Legal Name: _____

License Number: _____ RN or LPN _____

Social Security Number: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone: _____
Home Work

Employer Change

Employer Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____
Work

Methods You May Use to Provide the Above Information

FAX: 406-841-2343

E-MAIL: dlibsdnur@state.mt.us

U.S. MAIL: Montana Board of Nursing
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Helena, MT 59620-0513

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